In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for processing a separator page used for separating print jobs being output from a printer system, said method comprising:

receiving an input separator page for use in identifying a second print job;

determining if said input separator page contains first print job information indicating use of the input separator page as a first print job page;

obscuring said first print job information by <u>blackening out the first print job information</u> if said first print job information is determined to be present on said input separator page; and

printing second print job information on <u>a machine-readable region</u> of said input separator page thereby providing a second print job separator page.

2.   (Original)   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said determining includes obtaining a bit map image of said input separator page.

3.   (Original)   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said determining is accomplished by scanning said input separator page using an optical scanning device.

4.   (Original)   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said determining is accomplished by obtaining a photo image of said input separator page.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including:

printing said second print job;

assembling said second print job with said second print job separator page; and

outputting said second print job with said second print job separator page from said printer.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including: inputting said second print job separator page containing said second print job information for receiving by said printer system for processing a third input separator page to be used to identify a third print job.

7.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium including machine readable coded indicia, said storage medium being selectively coupled to a reading device, said reading device being selectively coupled to processing circuitry within a computer system, said reading device being selectively operable to read said machine readable coded indicia and provide program signals representative thereof, said program signals being selectively operable for enabling processing of separator pages used for separating print jobs being output from a printer system by effecting the steps of:

receiving an input separator page for use in identifying a second print job;

determining if said input separator page contains first print job information indicating use of the input separator page as a first print job page;

obscuring said first print job information by blackening out the first print job information if said first print job information is determined to be present on said input separator page; and

printing second print job information on said input separator page thereby providing a second print job separator page.

8.   (Original)   The medium as set forth in claim 7 wherein said determining includes obtaining a bit map image of said input separator page.

9.   (Original)   The medium as set forth in claim 7 wherein said determining is accomplished by scanning said input separator page using an optical scanning device.

10.   (Original)   The medium as set forth in claim 7 wherein said determining is accomplished by obtaining a photo image of said input separator page.

11.   (Previously Presented)   The medium as set forth in claim 7 and further including:

    printing said second print job;

    assembling said second print job with said second print job separator page; and

    outputting said second print job with said second print job separator page from said printer.

12.   (Previously Presented)   The medium as set forth in claim 7 and further including: inputting said second print job separator page for receiving by said printer system for processing a third input separator page to be used to identify a third print job.

13.   (Currently Amended) A printing system for processing separator pages used for separating print jobs being output from said printing system, said printing system comprising:

    a printer device;

    an input device for providing an input separator page to said printer for identifying a second print job;

an image acquisition device arranged between said input device and said printer device, said image acquisition device being operable for obtaining image information identifying information contained on said input separator page; and

processing means coupled to said image acquisition device for determining if said input separator page contains first print job information indicating use of the input separator page as a first print job page, said printer device being operable for obscuring said first print job information by <u>blackening out the first print job information</u> if said first print job information is determined to be present on said input separator page, said printer device being operable for printing second print job information on said input separator page at a predetermined position relative to said obscured first print job information thereby providing a second print job separator page.

14. (Original) The printing system as set forth in claim 13 wherein said image acquisition device is operable for obtaining a bit map image of said input separator page.

15. (Original) The printing system as set forth in claim 13 wherein said image acquisition device is an optical scanner.

16. (Original) The printing system as set forth in claim 13 wherein said image acquisition device is a digital camera.

17. (Original) The printing system as set forth in claim 13 wherein said processing means is operable for comparing said image information contained on said input separator page with reference image information stored in memory.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The printing system as set forth in claim 13 wherein said input device is operable for inputting said second print job separator page containing said second print job information to said printer system for processing a third input separator page to be used to identify a third print job.